

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Application No.: 09/913,611

Atty Docket No.: Q54917

**REMARKS**

In response to the Advisory Action of April 20, 2004, applicants have filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), to gain entry of the amendments to the claims set forth in the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed on April 8, 2004. Applicants submit that claims 3 to 8 and 13 are patentable for the reasons stated in the Amendment of April 8, 2004.

With respect to the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action concerning electrical resistance, applicants point out that the Examiner simply is wrong in his assertion. There is no science that supports the Examiner's assertion. Further, with respect to the Examiner's argument concerning inherency, the Examiner first denies that he is relying on inherency, and then sets forth an argument based on inherency. The simple fact is, however, that the Examiner is relying on inherency.

In addition, applicants have added new claims 14 and 15 which recite that the cellulose-based woven fabric is a natural cellulose-based woven fabric.

Support for the recitation of a natural cellulose-based woven fabric is found on page 7, line 35 to page 36, line 3 of the specification and in Examples.

In Dickson et al, a natural cellulose-based woven fabric is clearly excluded from the invention of Dickson et al, as described in column 4, lines 60 - 61, where Dickson et al state that cotton and other natural cellulosic fiber materials are not equivalent and cannot be employed, and as seen in the Examples of Dickson et al where "rayon" (regenerated cellulose) is used.

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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

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